

Applicant Initiated Interview Request Form

Application No.: 10/660,819 First Named Applicant: Liu
Examiner: A. Bayat Art Unit: 2624 Status of Application: Pending

Tentative Participants:

(1) Richard Lyon, Reg. No. 37,385 (2) Examiner A. Bayat
(3) _____ (4) _____

Proposed Date of Interview: 11/13/07 Proposed Time: 2:00PM (EST) (AM/PM)

Type of Interview Requested:

(1) ☒ Telephonic (2) ☐ Personal (3) ☐ Video Conference

Exhibit To Be Shown or Demonstrated: ☐ YES ☒ NO

If yes, provide brief description: _____

Issues To Be Discussed

Issues (Rej., Obj., etc)	Claims/ Fig. #s	Prior Art	Discussed	Agreed	Not Agreed
(1) <u>Rejection (103)</u>	<u>1, 4, 7-8 and 10-12</u>	<u>Rico/Carson</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(2) <u>Rejection (103)</u>	<u>5-6</u>	<u>Rico/Carson/Itagaki</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(3) _____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(4) _____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

☐ Continuation Sheet Attached

Brief Description of Arguments to be Presented:

(See attached agenda)

An interview was conducted on the above-identified application on _____.

NOTE:

This form should be completed by applicant and submitted to the examiner in advance of the interview (see MPEP § 713.01).

This application will not be delayed from issue because of applicant's failure to submit a written record of this interview. Therefore, applicant is advised to file a statement of the substance of this interview (37 CFR 1.133(b)) as soon as possible.


(Applicant/Applicant's Representative Signature)

(Examiner/SPE Signature)

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.133. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 21 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

AGENDA FOR EXAMINER INTERVIEW FOR S/N 10/660,819

1) The 103 Rejections based on Rico

- (a) Rico teaches determining thicknesses, normalizing thickness values and histogramming pixel intensity values (which purportedly can be converted to thickness values). However, these steps are never performed on or for the same object. The thicknesses of a three-dimensional triangular phantom are determined, and used to with a mammogram of a breast phantom to create a phantom thickness map object. The values of this phantom thickness map object are normalized to the thickness readout of the mammographic system. But, the only histogram computed in the Rico scheme involves a digital mammogram of a women's breast—which is unrelated to either of the aforementioned phantoms.

Accordingly, if the object is the breast phantom or the three-dimensional triangular phantom, then Rico does not teach the claimed feature of “**generating a thickness histogram for the object** from the normalized values”, as a histogram is never computed for either of these phantoms. And, if on the other hand, it is supposed that the breast imaged in the digital mammogram is the claimed object, then Rico does not teach either of the claimed features of “**determining the thickness of the object** along each of a prescribed number of parallel rays directed through the object in the direction under consideration” or “normalizing the determined **thickness values of the object**”. This is because the only thickness determination along rays through an object and normalizing of thickness values taught in Rico involve the aforementioned phantoms.

- (b) If Claim 1 was amended to read “determining the thickness of the object along each of a prescribed number of parallel rays directed through the object in the direction under consideration, normalizing the determined thickness values of the object, and generating a thickness histogram for the object from the normalized values” would this clarify the difference between the claimed object representation process and the process taught in Rico, as described above.